

*John Henry Mathers Boston  
Feb. 6. 1772*

/// A N  
ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
Blessed End

O F  
*Gulielma Maria Penn,*

A N D O F

*Springet Penn,*

The Beloved W I F E and  
Eldest S O N of

*William Penn.*

Printed for the Benefit of his Family,  
Relations, and particular Friends, in  
Memory of them, and the Lord's  
Goodness to Them.



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A N  
ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
Blessed End

Of my Dear Wife  
*Gulielma Maria Penn.*

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*The Memory of the Just is Blessed,*  
Prov. 10. 7.

**M**Y Dear Wife, after eight  
Month's Illness (though  
she never perfectly recovered her  
weakness the Year before, which  
held her about six Months) De-  
A 2 parted

parted this Life the 23<sup>d</sup> of the 12<sup>th</sup> Month, 169<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. about half an hour past two in the Afternoon, being the sixth Day of the Week, and the Fiftieth Year of her Age, and was sensible to the very last.

During her Illness, she uttered many living and weighty Expressions, upon divers Occasions, both before and near her End : Some of which I took down for mine and her dear Childrens Consolation.

At one of the many Meetings held in her Chamber, we and our Children, and one of our Servants, being only present, in a tendering and living Power, she broke out, as she sat in her Chair, " Let us all prepare, not knowing



“ knowing *what Hour or Watch*  
 “ *the Lord cometh.* O I am full  
 “ of Matter! Shall we receive  
 “ Good, and shall we not receive  
 “ *Evil things at the hands of the*  
 “ *Lord?* I have cast my care up-  
 “ on the Lord, he is the *Physi-*  
 “ *cian of Value*; my Expectation  
 “ is wholly from him: He can  
 “ *raise up,* and He can *cast down.*  
 A while after she said, “ Oh  
 “ what shall be done to the *un-*  
 “ *profitable* Servant?

At another Meeting, before  
 which much Heaviness seemed  
 to lie upon her Natural Spirits,  
 she said, “ This has been a *pre-*  
 “ *cious* Opportunity to me, I am  
 “ *finely relieved and comforted,*  
 “ Blessed be the Lord.

At

At another time, as I was speaking to her of the Lord's Love, and Witness of his Spirit, that was with her, to give her the Peace of *Well-doing*; she returned to me, looking up, "For, said she, "I never did, to my "knowledge, a *wicked* thing in "all my Life.

To a Friend, Aged 75 Years, that came to see her, she said, "Thou and I, to all appearance, "are *near our Ends*. And to another, about 65 Years old, that came also to see her, she said, "How much older has the "Lord made me by this weakness than thou art? *But I am "contented; I do not murmur; I "submit to his Holy Will.*

In

In the strength of her Fits and Vapours, she said, "'Tis the great Goodness of the Lord, that I should be able to lie thus still. He is the Physician of *Value* to me, can I say : *Let my Tongue set forth his Praise, and my Spirit Magnify Him, whilst I have Breath.* O I am ready to be transported beyond my strength. God was not in the *Thunder*, nor in the *Lightning*, but he was heard in the *Still Voice*. She did at several times pray very sweetly, and in all her Weakness manifested the most equal, undaunted and resigned Spirit, as well as in all other respects ; she was an excelling Person, both as *Child, Wife, Mother, Mistress, Friend and Neighbour.* She

She called the Children one day, when weak, and said, “ Be  
 “ not frightened Children, I do  
 “ not call you to take my leave  
 “ of you, but to see you, and  
 “ I would have you walk in the  
 “ *Fear of the Lord, and with his*  
 “ *People in his Holy Truth* ; or to  
 that Effect.

Speaking at another time solemnly to the Children, she said, “ I never desired any *Great*  
 “ *Things* for you, but that you  
 “ may fear the Lord, and walk  
 “ in his Truth, among his  
 “ People, to the end of your  
 “ days, &c.

She would not suffer me to neglect any publick Meeting, after I had my Liberty, upon her Account; saying often, “ O  
 “ go

“ go my dearest! Don’t hinder  
 “ any Good for me. *I desire thee*  
 “ go, I have cast my care upon  
 “ the Lord : *I shall see thee again.*

About three hours before her  
 End, a Relation taking leave of  
 her, she said again, “ I have cast  
 “ my care upon the Lord : My  
 “ dear Love to all Friends, and  
 “ (*lifting up her Dying Hands and*  
 “ *Eyes*) pray’d the Lord to pre-  
 “ serve them and bless them.

About an hour after, causing all  
 to withdraw, we were half an  
 hour together, in which we  
 took our last leave, saying all  
 that was fit upon that solemn  
 Occasion. She continued *Sensi-*  
*ble*, and eat something about an  
 hour before her Departure ; at  
 which time our Children, and  
 most of the Family, were present,

she quietly Expired in my Arms,  
 her Head upon my Bosom, with  
 a sensible and Devout Resigna-  
 tion of her Soul to Almighty  
 God. I hope I may say, she  
 was a Publick, as well as Pri-  
 vate Loss; for she was not only  
 an excellent Wife and Mother,  
 but an Entire and Constant  
 Friend, of a more than com-  
 mon Capacity, and greater Mo-  
 desty and Humility; yet most  
 equal and undaunted in Danger.  
 Religious as well as Ingenuous,  
 without Affectation. An easie  
 Mistress, and good Neighbour,  
 especially to the Poor. Neither  
 lavish nor penurious, but an Ex-  
 ample of Industry, as well as of  
 other Vertues: Therefore our  
 great Loss, tho' her own Eternal  
 Gain.

Sorrow

( 1 )

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# Sorrow and Joy

IN THE  
LOSS and END  
OF

*Springet Penn.*

**M**Y very Dear Child and  
Eldest Son, **Springet**  
**Penn.**, did from his Childhood  
manifest a Disposition to Good-  
ness, and gave me hope of a  
more than ordinary Capacity,  
and time satisfied me in both  
respects. For besides a good  
share of Learning, and especial-  
ly of *Mathematical* Knowledge, he

A 2                      shewed

shewed a judgment in the use  
 and application of it, much  
 above his Years. He had the  
 Seeds of many good Qualities ri-  
 sing in him, that made him Be-  
 loved, and consequently La-  
 mented ; but especially his *Hu-  
 mility, Plaineness and Truth*; with  
 a *Tenderness and Softness* of Na-  
 ture, that if I may say it, were  
 an improvement upon his other  
 Good Qualities. But though  
 these were no Security against  
*Sickness and Death*, yet they went  
 a good way to facilitate a due  
 Preparation for them. And in-  
 deed the Good Ground that was  
 in him, shewed it self very  
 plainly sometime before his Ill-  
 ness: For more than half a Year  
 before it pleased the Lord to  
 visit



visit him with Weakness, he grew more *Retired*, and much disengaged from Youthful Delights; shewing a remarkable Tenderneſs in Meetings even when they were ſilent: But when He ſaw himſelf doubtful as to his Recovery, he turn'd his Mind and Meditations more apparently towards the Lord; ſecretly (as alſo when they were in the Room that attended upon him) Praying often, with great Fervency to the Lord, and uttering very many *Thankful* Expreſſions and *Praises* to him, in a deep and ſenſible manner. One day he ſaid to us, I am *Reſigned*; *what God Pleaſeth*; he knows *what's beſt*. I would live if it *Pleaſed him*, that

B                      I might

I might serve him: But, O Lord, *not my Will, but thy Will be done.*

One speaking to him of the Things of this World, and what might Please him when Recovered; He answered, *My Eye looks another way, where the truest Pleasure is.* When he told me he had Rested well, and that I said it was a Mercy to him; he quickly Replied upon me, with a serious, yet sweet Look, *All is Mercy, dear Father, every thing is Mercy.* Another time when I went to Meeting, at Parting, he said, *Remember me, my dear Father, before the Lord: Though I cannot go to Meetings, yet I have many good Meetings; the Lord comes in upon my Spirit, I have*

*have Heavenly Meetings with him by my self.*

And not many days before he died, the Lord appearing by his Holy Power upon his Spirit, when alone, at my Return asking him how he did, he told me, *O I have had a Sweet Time, a Blessed Time! great Enjoyments; the Power of the Lord overcame my Soul, a sweet Time indeed.*

And telling him how some of the Gentry that had been to visit him, were gone to their *Games, and Sports and Pleasures*, and how little Consideration the Children of Men had of God and their latter End, and how much Happier he was in this Weakness to have been *otherwise* Educated, and to be preserved from those

Temptations to Vanity, &c. he Answered, *It is all stuff, my dear Father: It is sad stuff. O that I might live to tell them so!* Well, my dear Child, I Replied, Let this be the time of thy entering into secret *Covenant with God*, that if he Raise thee, thou wilt dedicate thy Youth, Strength and Life to him, and his People, and Service: He returned, *Father, that is not now to do, it is not now to do;* with great Tenderness upon his Spirit.

Being ever almost near him, and doing any thing for him he wanted or desired, he broke out with much Sence and Love, *My dear Father, if I live, I will make Thee amends.* And speaking to him of Divine Enjoyments,

ments, that the Eye of Man saw not, but the Soul, made alive by the Spirit of Christ, plainly felt; he, in a lively Remembrance, cried out, *O I had a sweet Time yesterday by my self! O the Lord hath preserved me to this day! O Blessed be his Name; my Soul Praises him for his Mercy! O Father, it is of the Goodness of the Lord that I am so well as I am!*

Fixing his Eyes upon his Sister, he took her by the Hand, saying, *Poor Tishe, Look to good things: Poor Child there is no Comfort without it: One drop of the Love of God is worth more than all the World. I KNOW IT, I HAVE TASTED IT: I have felt as much or more of*

the Love of God in this Weakness, than in all my Life before. At another time, as I stood by him, he looked up upon me, and said, *Dear Father, sit by me, I love thy Company, and I know thou lovest mine; and if it be the Lord's Will that we must Part, be not troubled, for that will trouble me.*

Taking something one Night in Bed, just before his going to Rest, he sat up and fervently Prayed thus. *O Lord God, Thou whose Son said to his Disciples, Whatever ye ask in my Name, ye shall receive; I Pray thee, in his Name, Bless this to me this Night, and give me Rest, if it be thy Blessed Will, O Lord!* And accordingly he had a very  
Com-

Comfortable Night, of which he took a Thankful Notice before us, next day.

And when he at one time more than ordinary, Expressed a desire to Live, and entreated me to pray for him ; he added, *And dear Father, if the Lord should Raise me, and Enable me to serve him and his People, then I might Travel with thee sometimes, and we might Ease one another* (meaning in the Ministry.) He spoke it with great Modesty : Upon which I said to him, My dear Child, if it please the Lord to Raise thee, *I am satisfied it will be so* ; and if not, then in as much as it is thy Fervent Desires in the Lord, *he will look upon thee just as if thou didst Live to*  
 B 4 *serve*

*serve him*, and thy Comfort will be the same: So either way it will be well. For if thou should'st not Live, I do verily believe thou wilt have the Recompence of thy good Desires, without the Temptations and Troubles that would attend, if long Life were granted to thee.

Saying one day thus, I am resolved I will have such a thing done; he immediately catch'd himself, and fell into this Reflection, with much Contrition, *Did I say I will? O Lord forgive me that irreverent and hasty Expression! I am a poor weak Creature, and live by thee, and therefore I should have said, If it pleaseth thee that I Live, I intend to do so or so; Lord forgive my Rash Expression.*

Seeing



Seeing my present Wife ready to be helpful, and do any thing for him, he turned to her and said, *Don't thee do so, let them ; don't trouble thy self so much for such a poor Creature as I am.* And taking leave of him a few Nights before his end, he said to her, *Pray for me, dear Mother, thou art good and innocent, may be the Lord may bear thy Prayers for me, for I desire my strength again, that I might live, and employ it more in the Lord's Service.*

Two or three days before his departure, he called his Brother to him, and looking Awefully upon him, said, *Be a good Boy, and know there is a God, a Great and Mighty God, who is a Rewarder*  
of

*of the Righteous, and so he is of the Wicked, but their Rewards are not the same. Have a care of Idle People, and idle Company, and love good Company, and good Friends, and the Lord will Bless thee. I have seen good things for thee since my Sickness, if thou dost but fear the Lord: And if I should not live (though the Lord is All-sufficient) Remember what I say to thee, when I am dead and gone: Poor Child, the Lord Bless thee, come and Kiss me! Which melted us all into great Tenderneſs, but his Brother more particularly.*

Many good Exhortations he gave to some of the Servants, and others that came to see him, that were not of our Communion, as well as those that were,  
which

which drew Tears from their Eyes.

The day but one before he died, he went to take the Air in a Coach ; but said at his return, *Really Father I am exceeding weak, thou canst not think how weak I am:* My dear Child, I replied, thou art weak, but God is strong, who is the *Strength of thy Life:* *Ay that is it,* said he, *which upholds me.* And the day before he departed, being alone with him, he desired me to fasten the Door, and looking earnestly upon him, said, *Dear Father, thou art a dear Father, and I know thy Father, come let us two have a little Meeting, a private Ejaculation together, now no Body else is here. O my Soul is sensible of the Love of*  
*God!*

*God!* And indeed a sweet time we had, like to Precious Ointment for his Burial.

He desired to go home; if not to Live, *to Die there*; and we made Preparation for it, being Twenty Miles from my House; and so much stronger was his Spirit than his Body, that he spoke of going next Day, which was the Morning he departed; and a Symptom it was of his *greater Journey* to his longer Home. That Morning he left us, growing more and more Sensible of his extreme Weakness, he asked me, as doubtful of himself, *How shall I get Home?* I told him, in a Coach; he answered, *I am best in a Coach.* But observing his decay,

decay, I said, Why Child ?

Thou art at home every where ;

*Ay*, said he, *so I am in the Lord.*

I took that Opportunity to ask

him, If I should remember his

Love to his Friends at *Bristol,*

*London, &c.* Yes, Yes, said he,

*my Love in the Lord ; my Love to*

*all Friends in the Lord :* And Re-

lations too ? He said, *Ay to be*

*sure.* Being asked, if he would

have his Afs's Milk, or eat any

thing ? He answered, *No more*

*outward Food, but Heavenly Food*

*is provided for me.*

His Time drawing on a-pace,

he said to me, *My dear Father,*

*Kiss me, thou art a dear Father ;*

*I desire to prize it ; how can I make*

*thee amends ?*

He also called his Sister, and

said

said to her, *Poor Child, come and Kifs me*; between whom seemed a *tender and long Farewell*. I sent for his Brother, that he might Kifs him too, which he did, all were in Tears about him. Turning his Head to me, he said softly, *Dear Father, hast no hope for me?* I answered, My dear Child, I am afraid to hope, and I dare not despair; but am, and have been Resigned, *though one of the hardest Lessons I ever Learned*: He Paused a while, and with a Composed Frame of Mind, he said, *Come Life, come Death, I am Resigned. O the Love of God overcomes my Soul!*

Feeling himself decline a pace, and seeing him not able to bring up the Matter that was in his Throat,

Throat, some Body fetch'd the Doctor; but so soon as he came in, he said, *Let my Father speak to the Doctor, and I'll go sleep*; which he did, and waked no more; *Breathing his last on my Breast*, the 10th Day of the 2d Month, between the Hours of Nine and Ten in the Morning, 1696. in his One and Twentieth Year.

So ended the Life of my *Dear Child, and Eldest Son*; much of my *Comfort and Hope*, and one of the most *Tender and Dutiful*, as well as *Ingenuous and Vertuous* Youths I knew, if I may say so, of my own *Dear Child*: In whom I lost all that any Father can lose in a Child, since he was capable of any thing that became a Sober Young Man: My *Friend and Companion*,



panion, as well as most Affectionate and Dutiful Child.

May this Loss and End have its due Weight and Impression upon all his dear Relations and Friends, and those to whose hands this Account may come, for their Remembrance and Preparation for their great and last Change, and I have my End in making my Dear Child's thus far Publick



*William Penn.*

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**FINIS.**



